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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/575,403	05/22/2000	Jeremy P. Chaney	109905-137512	1910

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REALNETWORKS, INC.  
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EXAMINER
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PHAM, KHANH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2166

DATE MAILED: 11/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/575,403

Applicant(s)

CHANEY ET AL.

Examiner

Khanh B. Pham

Art Unit

2166

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 79-82 and 84-102 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 79-82 and 84-102 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 96 and 97 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The amendment filed October 10, 2006 has been entered. Claims 79, 90, 93, 99-102 have been amended. Claims 79-82, 84-102 are pending in this Office Action.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 96-97 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 96-97 depend upon a non-existent claim 83. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 79-82, 84-102** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duwaer et al. (US 5,959,627 A), hereinafter "**Duwaer**".

**As per claim 79**, Duwaer teaches a method for managing metadata of content files using an electronic device comprising:

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- “obtaining from a persistent metadata database, metadata for the content files” at Col. 3 lines 40-65;
- “displaying on a display of the electronic device, a first column having a plurality of rows for track names corresponding to a plurality content files” at Fig. 5;
- “displaying on a display of the electronic device, at least one of: a second column having a plurality of rows for artist names corresponding to the plurality of rows for track names, a third column having a plurality of rows for album names corresponding to the plurality of rows for track names, and a fourth column having a plurality of rows for genre names corresponding to the plurality of rows for track names” at Fig. 5.

**As per claim 80**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said persistent database is a relational database” at Col. 5 lines 23-60 and Fig. 7.

**As per claim 81**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said persistent database is a semi-relational database” at Col. 5 lines 23-60 and Fig. 7.

**As per claim 82**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said persistent database is an object-oriented database” at Col. 5 lines 23-60 and Fig. 7.

**As per claim 84**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said persistent database is a tabular database” at Col. 5 lines 23-60 and Fig. 7.

**As per claim 85**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said persistent database is queryable” at Col. 3 lines 10-25.

**As per claim 86**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said persistent database persists separately from the content files” at Col. 3 lines 40-50.

**As per claim 87**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “at least one column of said track names, artist names, album names, and genre names has a blank entry” at Col. 3 lines 10-25 and Fig. 3.

**As per claim 88**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 87, wherein “said blank entry is saved as a named entry” at Col. 3 lines 10-25.

**As per claim 89**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, wherein “said track names correspond to a content file associated with at least one of a genre, artist, and album” at Fig. 5.

**As per claim 90**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 89, further comprising: “receiving an indication of a selection of a genre of content files, and displaying of a column having a plurality of rows for track names corresponding to plurality of content files of a genre in response to receiving the indication, the plurality of content files being content files of the selected genre” at Col. 4 lines 10-65 and Figs. 4-5.

**As per claim 91**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 89, wherein the method comprises: “receiving a new metadata value for a metafield of a metadata record corresponding to a display track name, and in response to receiving the new metadata value, propagating the new metadata value to the corresponding metafield of each corresponding metadata record for the content files of the selected genre” at Fig. 3.

**As per claim 92**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 89, wherein the method further comprises “receiving a selection of one of the displayed track names, and in

response to receiving the selection, rendering the content file corresponding to the selected display track name” at Fig. 5.

**As per claim 93**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 89, wherein “the display of said second column of a plurality of rows for artist names or said third column of a plurality of row for album names, is simultaneous with the display of said first column having a plurality of rows for track names corresponding to a plurality of content files of a genre” at Fig. 5.

**As per claim 94**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, further comprising “storing said persistent database on a computer readable medium” at Col. 3 lines 40-50.

**As per claim 95**, Duwaer teaches the method of claim 79, further comprising: “obtaining an indication from an input device to change at least one meta data value in said persistent database and automatically storing said indicated change in said persistent database” at Fig. 3.

**As per claim 96-102** recite similar limitations as in claims 79-95 and therefore are rejected by the same reasons.

### ***Response to Arguments***

5. Applicant's arguments filed October 10, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The examiner respectfully traverses applicant's argument.

#### **Claims 79 and 92:**

Regarding claims 79 and 92, Applicant's argued that Duwaer fail to teach listing a plurality of track names in rows corresponding with a plurality of rows for album names,

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artist names and/or genre names.” On the contrary, Duwaer clearly teaches these limitations at Fig. 5 reproduced below, with extra labels and arrows added for explanation purpose:

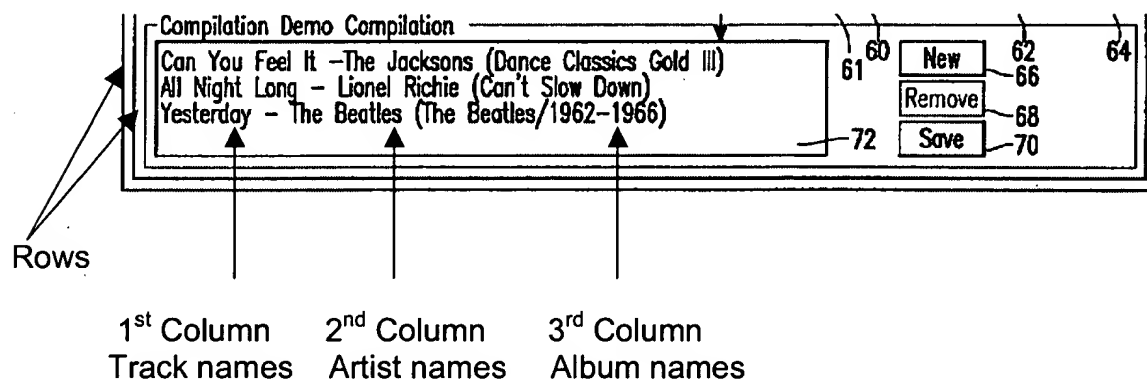


FIG. 5

#### Claims 80-82, 84-96 and 98-102.

Regarding claim 84, applicant argued that Duwaer fails to teach “tabular database”. On the contrary, as seen in Fig. 5 above, Duwaer clearly teaches data stored in table comprises rows and columns.

Regarding claim 88, applicant argued that Duwaer fails to teach “saving a blank as a named entry”. On the contrary, Duwaer teaches at Col. 3 lines 10-25 that “Other fields may or may not be left empty”. Duwaer’s empty fields saved in the database are corresponding to the claimed limitation “saving a blank as a named entry”.

Regarding claim 91, applicant argued that Duwaer fail to teach propagating changes to metadata across rows. On the contrary, Duwaer teaches at Fig. 3 a user interface for adding or modifying metadata in to selected songs, these changes will in turn reflect in the rows displayed in Fig. 5.

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In light of the foregoing arguments, the 35 U.S.C 102 and rejection is hereby sustained.

***Conclusion***

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khanh B. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-4116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30am to 4:00pm.

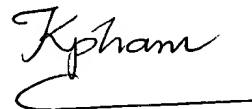
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Khanh B. Pham  
Examiner  
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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Kpham', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

November 3, 2006